



# Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety

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## DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY EXPANDS INTERNET TAG RENEWAL PILOT PROJECT; COBB COUNTY NEXT TO GO ONLINE

The Department of Motor Vehicle Safety (DMVS) has begun the expansion of the Internet Tag Renewal Program and has invited every county in Georgia to join with the twelve original counties to offer motor vehicle registrations online. Cobb County has accepted and will be the first additional county to offer registrations via the Internet beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The DMVS began the Internet Tag Renewal Program with a Pilot Project consisting of a cross section of Georgia counties who analyzed and tested the functional requirements of the system. On December 1, 2001 six counties (Bibb, Chatham, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett and Whitfield) launched the service allowing their citizens to renew their motor vehicle registrations online. In January 2001, DeKalb, Lowndes and Spalding joined the process. Clayton, Columbia and Rockdale Counties soon followed. Since its inception, over 66,000 Georgians have chosen to renew their vehicle registrations via the Department's website: [www.dmv.ga.gov](http://www.dmv.ga.gov).

"As this Internet Tag Renewal Pilot Project has emerged, we have monitored the processes and procedures concerning online registrations very closely. We believe that the reliability of the process has been established, and we are now ready to include any additional county in Georgia that wishes to offer their citizens the option of renewing their motor vehicle registration online," said Tim Burgess, DMVS Commissioner. "We are delighted that Cobb County has agreed to lead the way for the expansion," he added.

"The introduction of web renewals in Cobb County is the product of a continued emphasis on an effort to enhance service levels to Cobb citizens through new technology applications. We are excited about this opportunity," said Cobb County Tax Commissioner Gail Downing.

Vehicle Registration Renewal Notices or Prebills for Cobb County residents with May birthdays should be in mailboxes by the last week of March. At the bottom of that notice is a new message alerting the recipient of the online renewal option and providing a twelve-digit Renewal Identification Number (RIN). A RIN is needed for Internet renewal to ensure integrity and security. The customer can then go to the DMVS website, [www.dmv.ga.gov](http://www.dmv.ga.gov), and follow the instructions to renew their vehicle registrations online. MasterCard and Visa credit and debit cards are accepted. A successful transaction takes less than five minutes, and the new registration and decal will be mailed to the customer within five business days. A \$6.00 charge is required but none of these funds are retained by either state or county government.

A priority of the DMVS has been to make departmental services more convenient and accessible to the citizens while preserving the privacy and integrity of personal information. The ability to renew vehicle tags on the Internet does just that. It allows instant renewal and is available seven days a week around the clock. It is a quick, secure and convenient way to renew vehicle registrations. The DMVS marked its emergence into e-government by offering an online Automobile Dealer Inquiry service in October, 2001. Certified Requestors may now obtain motor vehicle reports online and since July 2002 thousands of Georgians have been able to renew their drivers' licenses and identification cards via the Internet.